

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7507

BILL NUMBER: SB 225

DATE PREPARED: Feb 28, 2001

BILL AMENDED: Feb 27, 2001

SUBJECT: Onsite Waste Management Districts.

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**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill permits the establishment of regional onsite waste management districts and specifies the requirements for establishment of a district through a petition and hearing process, and for the operation of a district.

Effective Date: July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: (Revised) Regional onsite waste management districts may be established. The establishment of a regional district may be initiated only by the executive of the county. A notice of intent to establish a district must be filed in the office of the executive of each governmental entity having territory within the proposed district; with the Department of Environmental Management (IDEM); and the State Department of Health. Upon the filing of a notice of intent to establish a district, the county executive must appoint a hearing officer to preside over hearings concerning the establishment of the district. The hearing officer does not have to be a state or county employee. If the hearing officer is not a full-time state or county employee, the hearing officer is entitled to be paid reasonable expenses; and per diem. The hearing officer must provide notice of the hearing by publication in a newspaper of general circulation; by certified mail; and by posting a copy of the notice at the principal office of the public agency holding the meeting. A regional district may be established by the adoption of an ordinance by the executive of a county. The district must provide notice of the adoption of an ordinance to local health departments; IDEM; the Department of Natural Resources; and the State Department of Health.

After introduction of the ordinance initially fixing rates and charges but before the ordinance is finally adopted, notice of the hearing setting forth the proposed schedule of the rates and charges must be given by

publication in a newspaper of general circulation in each of the counties in which the district is located.

Districts may inventory, inspect, and monitor septic systems. The districts would coordinate activities of the local health departments, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the Department of Natural Resources, and the State Department of Health.

Costs associated with the aforementioned duties could be paid by participating counties, fees and/or rates assessed, or grants received. The impact of the provision will depend on the number and nature of districts established.

Explanation of Local Revenues: (Revised) The districts may receive grants for system maintenance and other activities. Districts may also recommend that the county or counties impose fees or assess rates and enforce delinquent fees and penalties. The impact will depend on the number and nature of districts established.

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Department of Natural Resources, and the State Department of Health.

Local Agencies Affected: Counties and local health departments.

Information Sources: